

AGREEMENT FOR CONSULTING AND LEGAL SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT ("this Agreement") is between the State of Indiana acting by and through the Office of the Indiana Attorney General (the "State") and Skiles DeTrude, 150 East Market Street, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46204 ("Counsel").

WHEREAS, the State wishes to have an evaluation of the process by which Tort Claims are investigated and claims against potentially liable third parties are handled; and

WHEREAS, Counsel has expertise and experience in this area and is willing to provide such consulting and legal services.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual promises and covenants set forth below, it is agreed by and between the State and Counsel as follows:

1. Duties of Counsel. (a) Counsel shall study and evaluate the process by which the Tort Claims Investigation section of the Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") processes and handles tort claims, with an emphasis on identifying claims for which a third party may be liable in whole or in part. Counsel shall make recommendations to the OAG on how such process may be improved or changed. Counsel shall also make recommendations on how language in State contracts relating to insurance and indemnity may be amended to better protect the State's interests.

(b) Counsel may represent the State in certain claims or cases where recovery from third-party insurers is available. The assignment of claims or cases shall be made by the OAG, in its discretion. Pursuant to IC 4-6-5-3, the OAG appoints Counsel to represent the State in claims or cases so assigned. Counsel shall execute its responsibilities by following and applying the highest professional standards. Counsel shall use sound discretion with respect to the manner and method of performing services pursuant to this Agreement.

2. Consideration. (a) For the study, evaluation and recommendations contemplated by paragraph 1(a), Counsel shall be paid at the rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per hour. The maximum amount payable under this Agreement shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Counsel shall submit monthly invoices to the State showing with particularity the date and description of the Legal Services rendered. All payments shall be made in arrears in accordance with Indiana law and state fiscal policies and procedures, and, as required by IC 4-13-2-14.8, by electronic funds transfer to the financial institution designated by Counsel in writing unless a specific waiver has been obtained from the Auditor of State. No payments will be made in advance of receipt of the goods or services that are the subject of this Agreement except as permitted by IC 4-13-2-20.

(b) For the claims or cases handled by Counsel pursuant to paragraph 1(b), Counsel shall look to the third parties for recovery of his fees unless otherwise specifically agreed to in writing by the OAG.

3. Term. This Agreement is for a period of one (1) year beginning on the date of final contract execution. It may be renewed or extended only by written agreement signed by both

parties.

4. Access to Files and Records. (a) The State shall have full, immediate, and unrestricted access to the work product of the Counsel during the term of this Agreement. Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement, Counsel shall, without further request and at no cost to the State, turn over to the State all files relating to the work performed under this Agreement. Counsel acknowledges that it may be required to submit to an audit of funds paid pursuant to this Agreement, and shall maintain at its offices all books, accounting records, and other evidence pertaining to costs incurred and invoiced under this Agreement. Such materials shall be available during the term of this Agreement and for three (3) years from the date of termination or expiration, for inspection by the State or its authorized designee. Copies thereof shall be furnished at no cost to the State if requested.

(b) The State shall cooperate fully with Counsel in performing the evaluation and study contemplated by this Agreement, and will provide full access to all documents, records and persons necessary to conduct such a study. Counsel shall treat all such information with absolute confidentiality, and exposure to such information shall be protected by the attorney-client privilege.

5. Equipment, Supplies and Expenses. Counsel shall provide, at its own expense, its own office, transportation, materials, supplies, telephone, and all other materials needed for its services. However, the State shall make available an office for Counsel's use when it is necessary for Counsel to review files available in the OAG.

6. Assignment. Counsel shall not assign any part of the Legal Services to be performed under this Agreement to a third party. Counsel may assign its right to receive payments to such third parties as it may desire without the prior written consent of the State, provided that Counsel gives written notice (including evidence of such assignment) to the State thirty (30) days in advance of any payment so assigned. The assignment shall cover all unpaid amounts under this Agreement and shall not be made to more than one party.

7. Changes in Work. Counsel shall not change scope of the Legal Services to be performed pursuant to this Agreement or undertake additional work on behalf of the State unless authorized in writing by the State. No claim for additional compensation shall be made in the absence of a prior written agreement.

8. Compliance with Laws and Licensing Requirements.

A. Counsel, partners, and employees shall comply with all applicable registration and licensing requirements, rules, standards and codes of conduct governing the practice of law and the transaction of business in Indiana. Counsel shall immediately notify the State if any disciplinary actions are brought against it or any of its attorneys. Counsel certifies, by entering into this Agreement, that neither it nor any of its partners, associates or any other attorney associated with Counsel is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from entering into this Agreement by any federal agency or by any department, agency or political subdivision of the State of Indiana.

B. As required by IC 5-22-3-7:

- (1) Counsel and any principals of Counsel certify that
 - (A) Counsel, except for de minimis and nonsystematic violations, has not violated the terms of
 - (i) IC 24-4.7 [Telephone Solicitation of Consumers],
 - (ii) IC 24-5-12 [Telephone Solicitations] , or
 - (iii) IC 24-5-14 [Regulation of Automatic Dialing Machines] in the previous three hundred sixty-five (365) days, even if IC 24-4.7 is preempted by federal law; and
 - (B) Counsel will not violate the terms of IC 24-4.7 for the duration of the Agreement, even if IC 24-4.7 is preempted by federal law.
- (2) Counsel and any principals of Counsel certify that an affiliate or principal of Counsel and any agent acting on behalf of Counsel or on behalf of an affiliate or principal of Counsel:
 - (A) except for de minimis and nonsystematic violations, has not violated the terms of IC 24-4.7 in the previous three hundred sixty-five (365) days, even if IC 24-4.7 is preempted by federal law; and
 - (B) will not violate the terms of IC 24-4.7 for the duration of the Agreement, even if IC 24-4.7 is preempted by federal law.

9. Conflict of Interest.

A. Counsel represents and warrants that, after due and diligent inquiry, it is satisfied that it has no Conflict of Interest (as that term is defined in the *Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct*) that will preclude it from providing the Legal Services.

B. Counsel represents and warrants that it has reviewed and is familiar with the statutes and regulations relating to the ethical conduct of state employees. Counsel certifies that, after due inquiry, no partner or any spouse or unemancipated child of any partner (collectively, an "Interested Party"), is an employee of the State of Indiana. If an Interested Party is an employee of the State of Indiana, Counsel shall provide the State with an opinion by the State Ethics Commission indicating that the existence of this Agreement and the employment by the State of Indiana of the Interested Party does not violate any statute or regulation relating to the ethical conduct of state employees.

10. Continuity of Services. Counsel recognizes that the Legal Services provided under this Agreement are vital to the State and must be continued without interruption and that, upon expiration or termination of this Agreement, a successor, either the State or another Counsel, may continue them. Counsel shall use its best efforts and cooperation to effect an orderly and efficient transition to a successor, and shall be reimbursed for all reasonable transition costs.

11. Disputes.

A. Counsel agrees that, the existence of a dispute notwithstanding, it will continue without delay to carry out all its responsibilities under this Agreement that are not affected by the dispute. Should Counsel fail to continue to perform its responsibilities as regards all non-disputed work, any additional costs incurred by the State or Counsel as a result of such failure

shall be borne by Counsel, and Counsel shall make no claim against the State for such costs.

B. The parties agree to resolve disputes through submission of their dispute to the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Administration. The Commissioner shall reduce a decision to writing and mail or otherwise furnish a copy thereof to Counsel and the Office of the Attorney General within ten (10) working days after presentation of such dispute for action. The Commissioner's decision shall be final and conclusive unless either party mails or otherwise furnishes to the Commissioner, within ten (10) working days after receipt of the Commissioner's decision, a written appeal. Within ten (10) working days of receipt by the Commissioner of a written request for appeal, the decision may be reconsidered. If no reconsideration is provided within ten (10) working days, the parties may mutually agree to submit the dispute to arbitration for a determination, or otherwise the dispute shall be submitted to an Indiana court of competent jurisdiction.

C. The State may withhold payments on disputed items pending resolution of the dispute. The unintentional nonpayment by the State of one or more invoices not in dispute in accordance with the terms of this Agreement will not be cause for Counsel to terminate this Agreement, and Counsel may bring suit to collect these amounts without following the disputes procedure contained herein.

12. Drug-Free Workplace. As required by Governor's Executive Order No. 90-5 dated April 12, 1990, Counsel certifies and agrees that it will provide a drug-free workplace by:

A. Publishing and providing to all of its employees a statement notifying its employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in Counsel's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; and

B. Establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform its employees of (1) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace; (2) Counsel's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace; (3) any available drug consulting, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and (4) the penalties that may be imposed upon an employee for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace; and

C. Notifying all employees in the statement required by subparagraph (A), above, that as a condition of continued employment the employee will (1) abide by the terms of the statement; and (2) notify Counsel of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction; and

D. Notifying in writing the State within ten (10) days after receiving notice from an employee under subdivision (C)(2) above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction; and

E. Within thirty (30) days after receiving notice under subdivision (C)(2) above of a conviction, imposing the following sanctions or remedial measures on any employee who is convicted of drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace: (1) take appropriate personnel

action against the employee, up to and including termination; or (2) require such employee to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency; and

F. Making a good faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace through the implementation of subparagraphs (A) through (E) above.

13. Funding Cancellation. When the director of the State Budget Agency makes a written determination that funds are not appropriated or otherwise available to support continuation of performance of this Agreement, it shall be canceled. A determination by the Budget Director that funds are not appropriated or otherwise available to support continuation of performance shall be final and conclusive.

14. Governing Laws. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by the laws of the State of Indiana and suit, if any, must be brought in the State of Indiana.

15. Indemnification. Counsel agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State of Indiana and its agents, officials, and employees from all claims and suits, including court costs, attorney's fees, and other expenses caused by any act or omission of Counsel or its agents or employees in connection with this Agreement. The State shall not provide any indemnification.

16. Independent Contractor. Counsel and the State are acting in their individual capacities and not as employees, partners, joint ventures or associates of one another and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship between the parties. Neither party shall represent to any third parties that the relationship is other than an independent contractor relationship. Counsel is a self-employed independent contractor and as such, Counsel shall be free of any supervision by the State. The Counsel's time, place and methods of performing services under this Agreement shall be at its sole discretion, except that it shall perform all services according to the highest professional standards.

Subject to Paragraph 9A, Conflict of Interest, Counsel shall be free to devote its time and attention to other business activities, including the right to represent other clients or to be employed by a third party.

The employees or agents of one party shall not be deemed or construed to be the employees or agents of the other party for any purposes whatsoever. Neither party will assume any liability for any injury to any persons, or damage to any property, arising out of the acts or omissions of the agents, employees of the other party. Counsel shall be responsible for providing all necessary unemployment and worker's compensation insurance for its employees.

17. Key Person. The parties agree and acknowledge that Richard R. Skiles is a key person to this Agreement, and that all Legal Services rendered pursuant to this Agreement shall be performed by Mr. Skiles. However, this paragraph shall not be construed to prevent Counsel from using the services of others to perform tasks ancillary to those tasks that directly require the expertise of Mr. Skiles.

18. Nondiscrimination. As required by IC 22-9-1-10 and the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, Counsel shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment in the performance of this Agreement with respect to the hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment or in any matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry. Acceptance of this Agreement signifies compliance with applicable federal laws, regulations, and executive orders prohibiting discrimination in the provision of services based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or status as a veteran.

19. Notice to Parties. Whenever any notice, statement or other communication is required under this Agreement, it shall be sent to the following addresses by U.S. first class mail, postage prepaid.

Notice to the State shall be sent to:

Greg Zoeller
Office of the Attorney General
302 W. Washington St., IGCS-5th Fl.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Notice to Counsel shall be sent to:

Richard R. Skiles
Skiles DeTrude
150 E. Market St., Ste. 200
Indianapolis, IN 46204

20. Penalties/Interest/Attorney's Fees. The State will in good faith perform its required obligations hereunder and does not agree to pay any penalties, liquidated damages, finance charges, interest, or attorney's fees, except as required by Indiana law, in part, IC 5-17-5-1 *et seq.*, IC 34-54-8-5, and IC 34-13-1-6.

21. Severability. The invalidity of any section, subsection, clause or provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, clauses or provisions.

22. Taxes. The State of Indiana is exempt from state, federal and local taxes. Because both parties to this Agreement consider Counsel to be an independent contractor and not an employee of the State, Counsel agrees that the State shall not be obligated to withhold any income or employment taxes from any payment made to Counsel pursuant to this Agreement. Counsel shall be solely responsible for the payment of any required taxes.

23. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated, in whole or in part, by the State whenever, for any reason, the State determines that such termination is in the best interest of the State. Termination of services shall be effected by delivery to Counsel of a Termination Notice at least fifteen (15) business days prior to the termination effective date, specifying the extent to which performance of services under such termination becomes effective. The State will not be liable for legal services performed after effective date of termination. Counsel may terminate this Agreement as provided by Rule 1.16, *Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct*.

24. Waiver of Rights. No right conferred on either party under this Agreement shall be deemed waived and no breach of this Agreement excused, unless such waiver or excuse shall be in writing and signed by the party claimed to have waived such right.

25. Binding Authority; Non-Collusion and Acceptance. The undersigned attests, subject to the penalties for perjury, he/she has been duly authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of the entity designated below, and that he/she has not, nor has any other partner, associate, member, employee, representative, agent, or officer of the entity designated below, directly or indirectly, to the best of his/her knowledge, entered into or offered to enter into any combination, collusion, or agreement to receive or pay, and that he/she has not received or paid, any sum of money or other consideration for the execution of this Agreement, other than that which appears upon the face of this Agreement.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Counsel and the State by their duly authorized representatives have executed this Agreement as of the dates set forth below.

Skiles DeTrude

By: [Signature]

Date: 5/22/07

Department of Administration

By: [Signature] (for)
Carrie Henderson, Commissioner

Date: 6/18/07

Approved for Form and Legality

By: [Signature] (for)
Stephen Carter, Attorney General

Date: 7-31-07

Indiana Office of the Attorney General

By: [Signature] (for)
Stephen Carter, Attorney General

Date: June 8, 2007

Budget Agency

By: [Signature] (for)
Christopher A. Ruhl, Director

Date: 7-31-07

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